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HAS CONNIE MACK DECIDED HE IS IN BAD?

TALL LEADER OF PHILADELPHIA ATHLETICS.

Connie Mack's experience with his host of youthful college ball players continues unabated, but as yet without producing any appreciable results. Many experts say that there is not a single good player among Mack's many collegians, but such an assertion is too broad and sweeping to be accurate, writes Rodman Random in Philadelphia Press. Undoubtedly in the outfit are some players who, with the kind of care and attention they will get under this famous leader, will develop into great ball players.

However, the operation is certain to be very slow, and baseball fans are impatient for results. The tediousness of the operation is due to the fact that the tall leader is trying to construct a whole team from green players. Had he held to a few of his veterans he would have been able to give more individual attention to his men, have developed them rapidly, and then have supplanted the veterans. Then at no time would he have had a whole team of rookies. The developing players would have had a few old heads upon whom to depend whereas they now play as though bewildered.

Does Connie Mack count this policy a mistake and believe he has carried the operation to too great lengths? This may be indicated by the fact that Harry Davis, his trusty lieutenant, has been doing considerable scouting of late in the minor league field. It is the first real effort the Athletics have made to land professional players from the minor leagues to bolster the team, all other efforts having been conducted in the college field.

BASEBALL NOTES

There is still some fight left in the White Sox.

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"Doc" Lavan is playing better ball than ever before.

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The Washington club has sold its right to Pitcher Ehmke to Detroit.

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The Pittsburgh club is loading up with all kinds of bush leaguers this fall.

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Roger Hornsby, the St. Louis phenom, is climbing rapidly in the batting averages.

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Hans Wagner has always been on the level. In fact, no player ever met a ball more squarely.

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John Beall, the former White Sox player, is leading the American association with the bat.

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"Ed" Fitzpatrick is making a hit with Boston "fans" by his playing in place of "Johnny" Evers.

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Rowdy Elliott is a real backstop. His work stamps him as the right kind to stick in the big show.

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"You can't always shin up the pennant pole by chinning," says John K. Tener to George Stallings.

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Connie Mack should consider it a successful season if he does not run afoul of the child-labor law.

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The Toledo American association team is called the Iron Men. The team has proved highly malleable.

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Lee Fohl, manager of the Indians, caught a few games for the Pirates in 1902 and for the Reds in 1903.

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Pete Standridge and George Zabel should be much better pitchers next year than they were last year.

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Just what use John McGraw will make of Indian Thorpe when he gets him back again is hard to say.

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The Cleveland and Detroit clubs will make big money this year. They are the best coin getters in the West.

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"Babe" Ruth, star left hander of the Red Sox, is getting better and better every time he steps into the box.

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Tris Speaker hasn't much on Max Carey of the Pirates, when it comes to getting under long drives in deep center field.

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"Davey" Robertson of the Giants is straining every effort to hold the batting leadership of the National league.

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A dozen passes would only mar a baseball game, whereas they would put a crap game out of commission.

MAKES QUEER DOUBLE PLAY

Tommy Leach Got Both Ends in Peculiar Manner—Covered Second After Wild Throw.

Tommy Leach, playing center field for his Rochester team against Providence, got both putouts in as peculiar a double play as has been recorded yet. Shean was on first when Onslow hit a liner to Leach. Tommy gathered it in and threw to Holke at first to get Shean before he could get back to the bag. The throw went wild and Leach came racing in from center, covered the bag and took the throw when Holke recovered the ball. Shean had run beyond second and could not get back.

JOE JACKSON IS IMPROVING

All White Sox Are Pulling for Outfielder to Lead American League as Hardest Hitter.

"Joe Jackson is getting better every day," said Eddie Collins, captain and second baseman for the Chicago White Sox. "Speaker is a sort of combination of Cobb and Jackson in hitting. Spoke will beat out some infield hits; not as many as Cobb and more than Jackson. He will not walk as often as Cobb, but will walk oftener than Jackson. This means that Jackson is the cleaner hitter. He has to be to stay in that company.

Joe Jackson.

"All the White Sox are pulling for Joe to lead the American league this year. He has been a wonderful hitter for several years, but he never got the credit due him. He has hit hard enough several years to lead every league but the one Cobb was in. It's the greatest race the game has ever known."

CHANCE FOR SAM CRAWFORD

If Through as Player Fellow Citizens of Wayne County Plan Running Him for Sheriff.

If Hugh Jennings really thinks Sam Crawford is done as a ball player, there still is a chance for Wahoo to keep before the public. His fellow citizens in Wayne county, Michigan, in which Detroit is situated, have suggested that he become a candidate for sheriff, running against Ed Stein, also a ball player, once upon a time, as followers of the old Brooklyn Superbas will remember.

Jack Barry Improves.

"Jack" Barry started poorly this season, but has shown great improvement in the last month.

"SOME BASEBALL BUG"

Outfielder Whitted Is Greeted by Stranger in Gotham.

Philly Player Has Not Missed Game This Year and Thinks Grover Cleveland Alexander Is Greatest Among Pitchers.

When the Phils were in New York, George Whitted was at the cigar stand in his hotel, and Alexander the Great was standing ten feet away being interviewed by some New York newspaper men. A stranger came up and bought a cigar. Slowly lighting it, he turned to Whitted.

Alexander.

"That's Alexander over there, isn't it?" he asked.

"Yes, that's the fellow," was Whitted's answer.

"Ever see him pitch?"

"Sure did."

"He's a great pitcher."

"Now, you've said it."

"The Phils have a good team, haven't they?"

"Best in the world."

"It must be your favorite team?"

"It certainly is."

"Do you see them play often?"

"Haven't missed a game this year."

"You don't mean to say that you actually go from city to city to watch the Phillies?"

"It's absolutely true, I do it."

Whitted.

"Gee, my friend," said the stranger as he started to edge away from Whitted, "you are certainly some baseball bug."

JOHNSTON HELPS DODGERS

The work of Jimmy Johnston, the young outfielder secured from the Feds, had been a big help to the Dodgers until hit in the face with a pitched ball in a recent game with the Cubs. Johnston not only is one of the fastest men on the bases in the major leagues, but is a heavy hitter and an accurate fielder. He is one of the best outfielders in the game, in the judgment of Manager Robinson.

HOW MAMAUX GOT HIS START

Pirate Pitcher Began Playing Under Lee Fohl, Then Manager of the Huntington Team.

Pitcher Al Mamaux of the Pirates got his start under Lee Fohl, when the present Cleveland manager was managing the Huntington team. When the Pirates and Indians both were in Chicago recently and stopping at the same hotel, Fohl and Mamaux had an experience meeting.

"Take care of that arm of yours," said Fohl to the Pirate pitcher.

"What do you care about it? I'm not on your club now," answered Mamaux.

"No, but I might want to draft you into a real major league some day," was Fohl's comeback.

"Huh, I'd like to be in the American league and show those batters something at that," said the Pirate pitcher.

MAGIC OF SURGICAL SCIENCE IS MAKING NEW MEN OF OLD

Some Remarkable Instances Where Operations Have Practically Rebuilt Vital and Important Portions of the Human Body That Had Been Shot Away in the Battles—"Gas Gangrene" Is Surgeon's Worst Enemy.

London.—The marvelous progress that has been made in recent times in surgical science is most impressively revealed by a journey to some of the larger military hospitals, made possible through the courtesy of Sir Alfred Keogh, director general of the army medical service.

In all the hospitals what the medical staff set above all is conservative surgery—that is to say, the saving of limbs in order that the patients may remain useful members of the community. Thus, at the Herbert hospital, at Shooter's Hill, there have been since the beginning of the war from three to four thousand operations, and Colonel Simpson, the officer in charge, declared that he did not believe there had been in all more than 25 primary amputations.

The impression left by a tour of these hospitals upon the layman's mind is that outsiders have an utterly inadequate idea of the debt they owe to modern surgery at a time like the present. Day by day the surgeons are giving to the nation new men for old. They have embarked upon a great mission of hope among the nation's soldiers. They are doing more than would have been credible twenty years ago to rob war of its ultimate horror.

Out of the hundreds of wonderful cases brought to one's notice during these visits it is only possible to describe a few that may be regarded as typical of this trade of mending soldiers. Take first the new nerve surgery. Here is a man with a bullet hole near his collar bone which severed the nerve controlling the muscles of the wrist. The result was "wrist drop" and a hand which until quite recently would have been regarded as incurably useless. The two ends of the severed nerve have been freed from what had already become no more than a scar, they have been reunited and there is every prospect that in less than a year the hand will be almost as good as ever.

"As simple as tying up the two ends of a cut telephone wire," says the surgeon who operated.

Amazing Nerve Cases.

There are more remarkable nerve cases still. A man had part of the fleshy portion of his arm shot away, carrying with it four inches of the nerve necessary to control the hand movements. The surgeon rang up several hospitals on the telephone till he heard of what he wanted, the amputation that afternoon of a healthy limb. The limb happened to be a leg, and it was amputated in the afternoon. No sooner was it cut off than four or five inches of practically living nerve were removed from the calf, placed in a saline bath and rushed by taxi to the other hospital. Here the patient was already under an anesthetic. The wound in his arm was opened with a lancet, the ends of the indispensable nerve quickly found and the circuit re-established, as it were, by means of the first patient's four inches of filament. Today the man is in a fair way of regaining the full use of his hand.

Bone surgery on rather similar lines is more familiar, but hardly less surprising when you meet and talk to a man who converses with the aid of a lower jaw part of which was only a few weeks ago part of his right leg. It was mended with two and one-half inches of one of his shin bones. The shin has quite healed, and the hole will be completely filled with new bone before long, so accommodating is nature when treated with knowledge.

Another patient is perfectly happy and prosperous with three inches of the fibula of his left leg neatly mortised in the humerus of his right arm. He, too, will finally suffer no loss of bone whatever. The variants of such operations are endless and only limited by the ingenuity and enterprise of each surgeon.

Carpentry and Legs.

Of remarkable examples of carpentry applied to broken limbs most hospitals have two or three, if not more, on hand. A young fellow was brought into the hospital with one leg shortened by five inches, owing to the ends of the broken bone overlapping. He seemed a hopeless cripple. The leg was rebroken under an anesthetic, an eighth of an inch cut off from each side of the fracture so as to secure a smooth joint, and a steel plate fastened on with six screws, precisely as one would mend the broken leg of a table. The plate and screws will remain in position as a permanent addition to the soldier's anatomy, for steel will not rust among the tissues. And the man has a leg practically as long and as straight as, and rather stronger than, it was intended to be by nature.

Some of the most cruel wounds are those in the jaw, but even here what the skill and patience of the surgeon have been able to do is wonderful. One poor fellow who had been provided with a new roof to his mouth was one of the most cheerful of the patients. His comic songs are the delight of the ward. You cease to be amazed at any height of human skill or human courage after a few hours in any of these military hospitals. You know for certain then that man is unconquerable.

Where the injury is to the upper part of the face, resulting in, say, the removal of the nose and one eye, magical results are being achieved in a southwestern district hospital by the provision of masks perfectly counterfeiting the lost section of the physiognomy. Lieut. Derwent Wood is the inventor of the plan. With the help of photographs of what a patient was like before being wounded he will make a false nose of silvered copper, artistically painted to match the surrounding complexion, which will so far defy detection as to enable the owner to go out into the world again without shrinking and play his old part in the affairs of men.

A Remarkable Operation.

Here is another remarkable case. Not long ago a wounded Guardsman was brought into the Queen Alexandra hospital at Millbank, suffering from a shrapnel wound. Examination under the X-rays showed that a piece of metal as large as a halfpenny and much thicker had entered the breast and lodged in the region of the heart. It was, in fact, actually touching the heart and impeding its action. An operation was decided on, and the surgeon thrust his hand right into the opening and pulled out the piece of metal, which is preserved as a souvenir. There was a danger that during anesthesia the lungs would collapse, and therefore ether was pumped into them to keep them distended. That gallant Guardsman is now out and about, and it is declared that he will not feel the slightest ill effects from his strange experience.

In this hospital there is at present a Serbian officer who was wounded in his own country and brought to England for treatment. It was a case of severe injury to the jaw. Lieut. Sir Francis Farmer removed a piece of bone about two and a half inches long from the tibia of the patient, and, having carefully prepared a bed in which to place it, fixed it in the jaw. The leg is now healed and the patient can eat wonderfully well.

But this refitting and, as it were, rebuilding of citizens is not enough. They must first be snatched from that progressive process of destruction associated with the dreaded word sepsis, that creeping death of the tissues which is the surgeon's most remorseless enemy. And here again one encounters the marvellous.

In this war the variety of sepsis that has claimed more victims than any other is that known in doctor's slang as "gas gangrene." Gas gangrene is caused by the presence in a wound of certain types of bacilli classed as "anaerobic," that is, bacilli which cannot live in air, the vital principle of which is oxygen. They exist—like the tetanus bacilli—in cultivated soil, and it is because the war is being fought in France among the peasants' fields that they are introduced so constantly by ricocheting bullets or scraps of earth stained clothing into the soldiers' wounds.

Once there they set about producing tiny gas bubbles among the tissues, hence the name "gas gangrene." But the gas they cannot endure is oxygen, and the obvious way to destroy them is to introduce oxygen into the innermost recesses of the wound. This is secured by various methods according to the nature of the injury. A hole right through the shoulder will be sterilized by the use of a wick drawing peroxide of hydrogen from a small tank above the bed. Another kind of wound may be sprayed with ozone and the third more conveniently dealt with by means of a perforated tube fed with oxygen gas from a cylinder.

The operations to which reference has been made would doubtless be described as severe even by the surgeons themselves; nevertheless, modern science has robbed them of most of their terrors. The improvements in anesthetics have been such that it is no uncommon thing for an operation to last two hours and for the patient to feel no ill effects from the drug a quarter of an hour after he recovers consciousness. Some, indeed, will be smoking a cigarette within that space of time. The secret lies in the administration of oxygen with the anesthetic.

SEES WAR'S END BY 1917

Underwriters at Lloyd's Quoting $31.50 Per Cent for Peace Policy to December 31.

London.—Peace by the end of 1917. That at least is the impression of underwriters at Lloyd's, who are quoting 30 guineas per cent, or $31.50 per cent in American currency, for a peace policy extending to December 31, 1917.

In case of a policy covering the period to the end of the present year the rate quoted is 85 guineas ($89.25) per cent, while if taken out for three months later a policy would rule 70 guineas ($73.50) per cent. The rate is 60 guineas ($63) to June 30, 1917, or 15 guineas ($15.75) per cent less if the time is extended to September of next year.

It looks as though the late Lord Kitchener's estimate of thre years would prove correct or thereabouts.

Ad Brings 502 Dogs.

Vincennes, Ind.—Five hundred and two dogs in the charge of 300 boys and girls appeared in response to an ad placed in all the local papers in which the W. A. Flint company asked for 1,000 dogs to be delivered at its front door at a specified time. Three hours before the time boys and girls leading or carrying their dogs were on the way to the Flint store. Each child bringing a dog to the Flint store was given 25 cents. A sign reading "Chasing for Flint's" was placed on each dog's back.

LOST HIS MEMORY AT FIRE

Indiana Man, Who Was in Iroquois Disaster in Chicago, Forgot His Past Life.

Binghamton, N. Y.—After being given up as dead 13 years, Milton Simmons, Kokomo, Ind., real estate dealer, has returned to his mother, Mrs. Cecelia Simmons, Syracuse.

Simmons tells a remarkable story of his loss of memory resulting from the Iroquois fire in Chicago. He was operating a spot light in the balcony when the fire broke out and he was plunged 60 feet into the bodies below, but was rescued. The fall caused loss of memory, and after two months in a hospital he recovered, going to Tipton, Ind., where he engaged in business and married. Later he went into the real estate business in Kokomo, where he now resides.

Increasing pressure on the brain from the injury resulted in the necessity for an operation last winter, and following this he gradually regained memory of his mother and his former life.

WILL NOT GET HER WAIST

British War Regulations Prevent Father of Indiana Woman From Following Usual Custom.

Fort Wayne, Ind.—Mrs. Brownie Simmons of Chicago, who has been visiting relatives in Fremont, will not receive this year a waist from her father in England, as she has each year for many years, because of the war regulations. She has received a letter from her mother saying the customs officers have refused to permit the waist to be sent out of the country, saying that would mean another waist would have to be imported to replace it. Mrs. Simmons' mother also wrote that she is required to spend one day each week wheeling wounded or sick soldiers about for an airing.

Diamonds Sent to Laundry.

Kansas City, Kan.—Mrs. William Davis of 828 Sandusky avenue has found a preparedness precaution taken against burglars unprofitable. Mrs. Davis hid a half-carat diamond ring and a pair of earrings, each set with a diamond weighing five-eighths carat, in a pillowslip the other night. The pillowslip was sent with a bundle of clothes to a laundry the next morning. The jewelry has not been recovered.

Nineteen Sons in Ten Years.

Corning, Ark.—Frank Scott and his wife of Kensett have been married ten years. Nineteen boys have been born to them. Six died at birth. Of the 13 living there are three sets of triplets and two sets of twins. The parents have been partial to the letter "A" of the alphabet in naming them. Ashbell, Archer and Austin are four and a half years old, Arthur and Arnold three and a half, Alfred, Albion and Adolph eighteen months and Abel and Abner six months.

Barred From Army, Ends His Life.

Southfields, N. Y.—Despondent over being rejected for enlistment in the United States army, August R. Moeller of Southfields, N. Y., committed suicide by drowning himself in the Hudson river. He was anxious to join the cavalry but was rejected on account of poor eyesight.